

Ceremony commemorates acquisition of Slokker property in Nobleton

By Bill Rea

There were a lot of happy people in the Nobleton area Monday as they were commemorating the acquisition of 170 acres from Slokker Canada.

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) has assumed ownership of the site and, while protecting it from development, will rehabilitate the land by

restoring it to a natural state. The York Region will manage an approximately 94-acre portion of the land as part of the York Regional Forest tract. Beginning in the spring of 2007, the Trees Ontario Foundation will help fund tree planting efforts.

"This is a glorious day to be chairman of the conservation authority," declared TRCA Chair Dick

O'Brien, and there were numerous local dignitaries on hand who agreed with him.

"It's a great day to be here," commented Regional Chair Bill Fisch, who pointed to York's commitment to preserve forest cover, stating that it's days like that when they believe they can attain what they are aiming for.

The acquisition of the land was the result of partnerships between a

number of agencies and levels of government, including King Township, the Region, City of Toronto, and Slokker, which made the land available.

"This is about partners," declared Mayor Margaret Black.

"In King, we are proud of our green community," she added, pointing to other properties that are being protected, including Cold Creek Conservation Area and the easements that were

recently approved along with 7th concession.

"It's a great contribution to our community," she said.

Slokker president Bruce Kerr said he thought "3,000 trees here was better than 300 homes."

He stressed how pleased he was to see that the property will be preserved

"Today's designation of 69 hectares of land for green space represents a very important and lasting contribution to the

environmental health of Ontario," commented Trees Ontario Foundation president John Cary.

The funding partnership for the property's acquisition included \$1 million each from the Region and Toronto, \$760,000 from Slokker in a price reduction on the property, \$37,000 from the Foundation of Greater Toronto, \$25,000 from the Township, \$25,000 from the Oak Ridges Moraine land trust and \$3,000 in private donations.

West Nile program ends for the season

York Region Health Services reports that the West Nile virus control program has ended for the season.

Although the risk of West Nile virus is lower in cooler weather, mosquitoes remain active. It is not until the first one or two hard frosts occur that mosquitoes become dormant and surveillance activities end.

During the 2006 season, residents had been asked to report dead crows and blue jays as a tool to determine possible West Nile virus activity in the region. Suitable specimens were submitted to the Canadian Co-operative Wildlife Health Centre in Guelph for testing for the virus.

Thanks are extended to the residents who reported dead birds through the Health Connection information line. As of Nov. 1:

- A total of 1597 dead birds were collected.
- A total of 34 birds of concern were submitted for testing.
- A total of 10 birds tested positive for West Nile virus.
- A total of 10 mosquito pools (or batches) tested positive for the virus.

If you find a dead bird, do not handle it with bare hands or dispose of it through the municipal garbage systems. If you choose to handle a dead bird, wear rubber gloves, double bag the carcass and bury under two feet of soil using a spade or shovel.

All West Nile virus surveillance activities, including the trapping and testing of mosquitoes, have also concluded.

Like humans, West Nile virus is transmitted to the bird population by infected mosquitoes. Crows, blue jays and other raptorial species are known to be most susceptible to the disease and enabled the West Nile virus team to track the travel of the virus through the region.

This year's surveillance program highlights relatively high West Nile virus activity, with 10 birds and 10 mosquito pools (or batches) testing positive for the virus in York. There were three human cases of the virus reported. In comparison, five human cases, 22 birds and 14 mosquito pools tested positive for the virus in York in 2005.

Township ratifies insurance agreement

By Bill Rea

Township council recently approved some minor revisions in its reciprocal insurance agreement with the Ontario Municipal Insurance Exchange (OMEX).

King has been part of this program for a little more than a year.

Township Treasurer Don Young reported the OMEX Advisory Board recently approved changes to the agreement, mainly representation and other governance issues.

They require ratification by the member municipalities.

"No detrimental

amendments have been noted," Young stated.

He also told Councillor Bill Cober the agreement has cut the insurance costs roughly in half.

"I'm very pleased we've made the transition," Cober remarked, also suggesting King should take more of a role in the governance. He thought the Township should take part in the governance structure of OMEX, adding small municipalities should be represented.

Township Clerk Chris Somerville wasn't sure what kind of time demands that would involve. Cober asked her to find out.



Numerous dignitaries were pitching in to plant trees Monday in commemoration of the acquisition of some 170 Nobleton area acres from Slokker Canada. Those on hand included York Region Chair Bill Fisch, John Cary of the Trees Ontario Foundation, Mayor Margaret Black, Slokker president Bruce Kerr, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority Chair Dick O'Brien, and Susan Walmer, Don Prince and Steve Gilchrist of the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust.

Jack & Jill
for
Tara Magee & Marty Walsh
Saturday
Nov. 11, 2006
8 pm
Schomberg Arena
Games
Refreshments
Prizes
Tickets at door

INVOLVED EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

2006 2007 2008 2009 2010



elect
Liina Peacock
Councillor - Ward 1 King City

King City needs a Councillor who has a realistic vision for the years ahead, with realistic goals and realistic plans.

As your Councillor I will ensure that:

- Sewer hook ups are a priority, and I will keep residents updated with the facts about process and cost. Where there is a question, I will find the answer, where there is a problem, I will be part of the solution.
- We must find appropriate sites for seniors' housing. Time-lines must be set for completion so that we may encourage our seniors to continue to be an integral part of our community.
- I will advocate for infrastructure improvements to eliminate the ditches, reduce truck traffic and address traffic calming measures needed to slow down speeding cars and safeguarding our children.
- I will work together with our Economic Development Officer and staff to bring new and appropriate businesses to King City and our township. This will broaden our tax base and address the heavy tax burden placed on you, the residents.

Good governance is about leading and making informed decisions based on true facts. We need to work together as a community to bring economic vitality to our village.

King City needs a Councillor who has the time, the dedication and a hands on approach to problem solving.

On Nov 13 VOTE ● PEACOCK, Liina

ELECT



CLEVE MORTELLITI
for Councillor of Ward 1

EXPERIENCE THAT SUITS THE TIME
I have 20 years experienced civil engineering, and from 2004 to 2006 I worked in the Operations Department at the Township of King. The next four years pose challenges that require a Councillor with the relevant experience. Ditches, sewers, roads, traffic, pedestrian safety, growth management, by-law enforcement...I have the knowledge and information to assist residents and local businesses as we move together into a new era in King.

FACT vs. FICTION
Some of you have been told that if you don't connect to sewer system, it won't function properly resulting in the need to truck sewage to the YDSS. This is absolutely untrue. Many of us have sump pumps in our basements, groundwater right? The same groundwater is finding its way into the sewer. The technical term for this is "infiltration". The fact is, the system is functioning even now with little or no sanitary flows due to groundwater infiltration flowing through the system and into the pumping station.

HOW IS GROWTH CONTROLLED?
It depends on who is in control. The King City Community Plan is a good plan, but it's only as strong as the Council who upholds it. Council has the authority to over-rule the Community Plan, regardless of the recommendations of Township staff. Now, more than ever before, we need a Council who will uphold the integrity of the Community Plan and ensure that growth is managed with intelligence, common sense, vision, and respect for our community.

On November 13th
ELECT CLEVE MORTELLITI
WWW.ENVISIONKING.CA
Authorized by the CFO for the Cleve Morbelliti Campaign